

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of providing a substrate ~~(10)~~ with a coating layer ~~(13)~~ of a polymeric material, ~~characterized in the steps that~~
comprising:

- a) suspending a pulverous, polymeric material ~~(2)~~ ~~is suspended (1)~~ in a fluid ~~(3)~~,
- b) pressurizing the fluid ~~(3)~~ ~~is pressurised (5)~~,
- c) ejecting the ~~pressurised~~ pressurized suspension ~~is ejected (16)~~ onto the substrate ~~(10)~~ to form the coating layer ~~(13)~~,
- d) heating the polymeric material ~~is~~, during any one of the steps a)-c), ~~heated (4, 6, 11)~~ to a temperature above its softening temperature.

2. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein said heating ~~(14)~~ in step d) is performed during step c).

3. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein said fluid ~~(3)~~ is a gaseous fluid, preferably air or an inert gas.

4. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1 ~~and 2~~,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein said fluid (3) is a liquid[[,]] ~~preferably an aqueous~~
~~liquid[[,]]~~ which ~~liquid~~ is evaporated in connection with the heating (11) in step d)[[,]]
during step c), so that the polymeric material is essentially free from the fluid as it
hits the substrate (10).

5. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of~~
~~the preceding claims~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the heating (11) of the
polymeric material during step d) is performed to a temperature below the melting
temperature of the polymeric material.

6. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of the~~
~~preceding claims~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the suspension is heated (4,
6) before step d)[[,]] ~~preferably in connection with step a) and/or b)~~.

7. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of the~~
~~preceding claims~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the pulverous polymeric
material in step a) has a mean particle size of 1-100 μm , ~~preferably 1-50 μm and~~
~~even more preferred 1-25 μm [[,]]~~ the pulverous particles ~~preferably~~ being constituted
of pulverous particles as formed directly in manufacturing of the polymeric material.

8. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of the~~
~~preceding claims~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the surface of the polymeric
pulverous particles is affected to counteract agglomeration of the pulverous particles

in the suspension[[,]] ~~preferably by treating the pulverous particles or by addition to the suspension of an agent that affects the surface.~~

9. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that wherein the substrate (10) is a substrate for a packaging laminate[[,]] preferably comprising one or more layers in the group that consists of ~~the~~ a fibre based core layer, a polymer core layer, a gas barrier layer, an adhesive layer, a liquid barrier layer and a sealing layer.

10. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that wherein the substrate (10) is pretreated[[,]] preferably in direct connection with step c), (15) for increased adhesion of the polymeric material.

11. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that wherein said coating layer (13) is applied at a thickness of 0.1-5 μm [[,]] ~~preferably 0.1-2 μm and even more preferred 0.1-1 μm .~~

12. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that wherein said coating layer (13) is applied on essentially the entire surface of one side of the substrate (10).

13. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said coating layer (13) is applied only partially, on chosen parts of the surface of one side of the substrate (10).

14. (Currently Amended) A device for providing a substrate (10) with a coating layer (13) of a polymeric material, ~~characterized in that it comprises~~ comprising

- mixing equipment (1), arranged to suspend a pulverous polymeric material (2) in a fluid (3),
- pressurizing equipment (5), arranged to pressurize said fluid,
- at least one nozzle (9) operatively connected to the pressurizing equipment (5) and arranged to eject (16) the suspension of polymeric material in fluid towards the substrate (10),
- heating equipment (4, 6, 11) arranged to heat the polymeric material to a temperature above its softening temperature.

15. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 14, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the heating equipment (4, 6) is one heating equipment and comprising additional heating equipment arranged upstream of the one heating equipment (11), ~~preferably in connection with said mixing equipment (1) and/or said pressurising equipment (5), and~~ arranged to heat said fluid and/or suspension of polymeric material in fluid.

16. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 14 ~~or 15~~, comprising ~~characterized in that~~ flow controlling equipment ~~(7, 8)~~ is arranged to control a flow ~~(16)~~ of the suspension in said nozzle ~~(9)~~.

17. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 14, comprising any ~~one of claims 14-16 characterized in~~ means ~~(15)~~ arranged to pretreat the substrate ~~(10)~~, preferably comprising activation of the surface of the substrate.

18. (New) A method according to claim 1, wherein said fluid is one of air and an inert gas.

19. (New) A method according to claim 1, wherein the suspension is heated in one of step a) and step b).

20. (New) A method according to claim 1, wherein the pulverous polymeric material in step a) has a mean particle size of 1-50 μm and is constituted of pulverous particles formed directly in manufacturing of the polymeric material.

21. (New) A method according to claim 1, wherein the pulverous polymeric material in step a) has a mean particle size of 1-25 μm and is constituted of pulverous particles formed directly in manufacturing of the polymeric material.

22. (New) A method according to claim 1, further comprising adding an agent to the suspension or treating the pulverous particles to affect the surface of the

polymeric pulverous particles in a manner that counteracts agglomeration of the pulverous particles in the suspension.

23. (New) A method according to claim 1, wherein said coating layer is applied at a thickness of 0.1-2 μm .

24. (New) A method according to claim 1, wherein said coating layer is applied at a thickness of 0.1-1 μm .

25. (New) A device according to claim 14, comprising means arranged to pretreat the substrate by activation of the surface of the substrate.